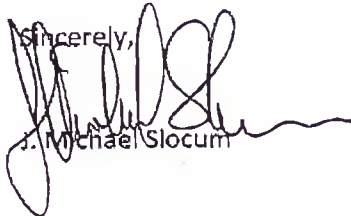


May 21, 2009  
Fax (202) 514-2836

Registration Unit  
Counterespionage Section  
National Security Division  
US Department of Justice  
1400 New York Avenue, N.W.  
1st Floor - Public Office  
Suite 100  
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Sir or Madam:

Enclosed please find a press release dated Friday, April 17, 2009 which ran in the Washington Times from the Kurdistan Regional Government US liaison office, Registrant #5783.

Sincerely,  
  
J. Michael Slocum

2009 MAY 22 AM 7:50  
CRM/CES/REGISTRATION UNIT

**The Washington Times**

Close Print

Friday, April 17, 2009

# Kurds anxious over U.S. withdrawal

Eli Lake (Contact)

A senior Kurdish official warned Thursday that security gains in Iraq could evaporate if American troops withdraw on schedule in two years without a political accord among Sunni Arabs, Shi'ite Arabs and Kurds.

"We are facing a huge, huge problem" in that event, said Fuad Hussein, chief of staff to the president of Iraq's Kurdistan Regional Government, Massoud Barzani.

Mr. Hussein told editors and reporters of The Washington Times that a recent uptick in suicide bombings in Baghdad show what could happen if key agreements are not reached regarding the division of powers between the central government and provinces, oil production and the status of disputed territory and cities such as Kirkuk.

"If the problems which exist now cannot be resolved in one or two years, the withdrawal of the American army will lead to unrest in Baghdad and perhaps a return of sectarian fighting," he said.

Under the Status of Forces Agreement approved by Iraq's parliament in November, all U.S. troops are supposed to withdraw from Iraq by the end of 2011. Nonetheless, the U.S. military has signed some contracts to sell Iraq helicopters, planes and tanks that would require training and delivery of equipment beyond that date.

CRM/CSS/REGISTRATION UNIT  
7:50 AM  
MAY 22 2009

Referring to recent bombings in Baghdad, Mr. Hussein raised the prospect that al Qaeda, which U.S. and Iraqi forces claim to have defeated in the western part of the country, may still have an offensive capability.

"In the end, these attacks in Baghdad have to do partly with the Ba'ath party [of deposed ruler Saddam Hussein] and partly with al Qaeda," he said. "Still, we feel and we see that those who believe in using violence ... are active; they are active in Baghdad; they are active in Mosul; they could be active in other areas."

Mr. Hussein said that to keep American forces in Iraq beyond the end of 2011 would require "a new agreement between Iraq and the United States."

That is a change from remarks by Mr. Barzani last year, suggesting that U.S. troops would be welcome in Kurdish territory if they could not stay in the rest of Iraq.

The Kurds, who suffered bitterly under Saddam's rule and have faced repression from neighboring Turkey, Iran and Syria, have long looked to Washington for protection.

Mr. Hussein said Iraqi Kurdish relations with Turkey had improved, noting that Turkey is now his region's largest trading partner.

However, he called for implementation of Article 140 of Iraq's constitution, which designates Kurdish majority areas such as Kirkuk, Mosul and the provinces of Nineveh and Diyalah as "disputed territory" and calls for a process to work out the final borders for the Kurdish federal region.

Mr. Hussein criticized the government in Baghdad and, in particular, Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki, for ignoring the constitution's federalist provisions.

Despite the lack of a national accord, Iraqi Kurds have achieved a level of autonomy that at times approaches independence. For example, foreign passports are stamped at an airport in Erbil and the regional government

has already signed about 20 contracts with foreign companies to develop oil and natural gas.

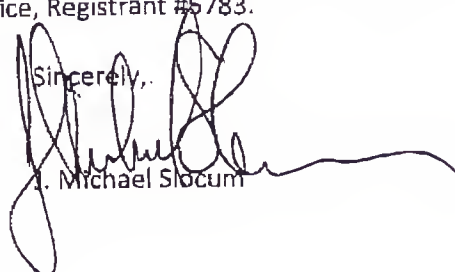
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US Department of Justice  
1400 New York Avenue, N.W.  
1st Floor - Public Office  
Suite 100  
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Sir or Madam:

Enclosed please find a copy of three advertisements which ran in various parts of May from the Kurdistan Regional Government US liaison office, Registrant #5783.

Sincerely,



J. Michael Slocum



Slocum FARA account <farakrg@gmail.com>

---

## world press freedom ads

3 messages

---

Tom.Squitieri@krg.org <Tom.Squitieri@krg.org>  
To: farakrg@gmail.com

Wed, May 20, 2009 at 2:54 PM

Hello Michael,

These ads ran in the Washington Post, the Washington Times, the Weekly Standard, Politico, New Republic and Roll Call in various parts of May to celebrate World Press Freedom Day.

Thanks.

Tom

Tom Squitieri  
Kurdistan Regional Government  
1634 Eye Street, NW, Suite 210  
Washington DC 20006 USA  
+1.202.637.2496

The Kurdistan Regional Government Liaison Office in U.S.A. is registered as an agent of the Kurdistan Regional Government under 22 U.S.C. § 611 et seq.

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### 3 attachments

 PDF KRG\_web\_1.pdf  
755K

 PDF KRG\_web\_2.pdf  
426K

 PDF TWP\_web\_3.pdf  
642K

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Tom.Squitieri@krg.org <Tom.Squitieri@krg.org>  
To: farakrg@gmail.com

Wed, May 20, 2009 at 2:58 PM

[Quoted text hidden]

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Tom.Squitieri@krg.org <Tom.Squitieri@krg.org>  
To: farakrg@gmail.com

Wed, May 20, 2009 at 2:58 PM

[Quoted text hidden]



# ON WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY 2009, THE FREE PRESS HAS A NEW HOME

"The press is free and no censorship shall be imposed upon it. Freedom of expression and publication shall be guaranteed to every citizen..."

**W**ith those opening words, the Kurdistan Regional Government in Iraq instituted the most progressive press freedom in the region. Signed into law on October 9, 2008, the press freedom law protects journalists from revealing their sources, forbids the jailing and criminal charges against journalists, and declares that the press "is of great value to both Kurdish and international society."

The light of a free press that is so essential and vital to a democracy and its citizens has come to the Middle East. The KRG is proud to announce that today, that light is shining brightly in Iraq, Kurdistan.

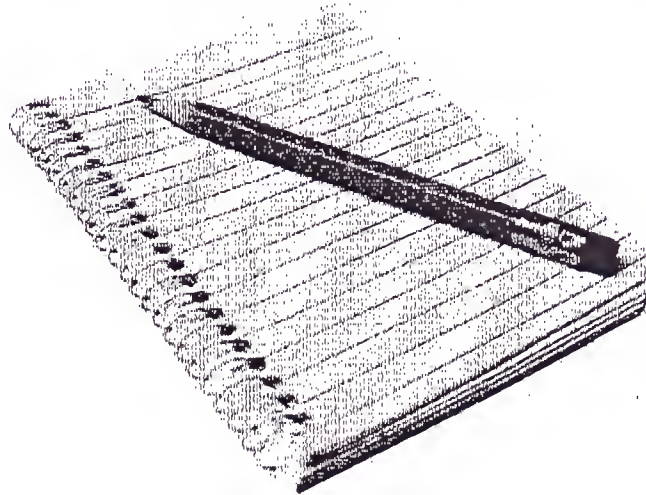
## Know Kurdistan

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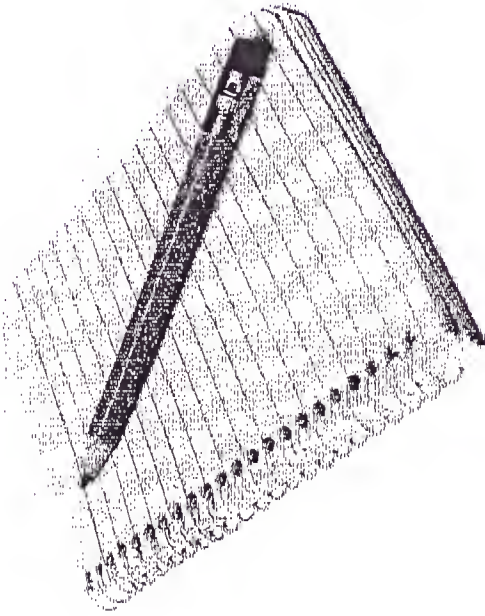


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